



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**COMMISSIONERS NAME SEASONED MANAGER AND ANIMAL CARE
ADMINISTRATOR AS DIRECTOR OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL**

Don P. Winstel (43015) has been named Director of the Franklin County Department of Animal Care and Control. Winstel has served as Interim Director of the department since February 2009.

He is a graduate of The Ohio State University, where he holds a bachelor's degree in science and zoology and formerly worked for the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium from 1972-2008, serving as Assistant Zoo Director from 1992-2008.

The Franklin County Department of Animal Care and Control enforces the dog laws in Franklin County and keeps the public safe from animal-related health or safety dangers, as well as rescuing thousands of dogs who have been lost, discarded, abandoned, injured or neglected and making them available for public adoption.

"Don served the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium for 36 years," said Commissioner John O'Grady "He brings to the Animal Care and Control shelter strong administrative qualifications and a great work ethic. As Interim Director, Don demonstrated the ability to respond to community and staff needs and I have great confidence in his experience."

"We had a number of high-quality candidates and conducted a very thorough process, but over the past year, Don helped to implement substantial operations and administrative policies and he is someone who has a clear understanding of the intricacies of animal care and control. We are excited to formally welcome him to the Franklin County team," said Commissioner Paula Brooks.

"We are fortunate to have someone as knowledgeable and dedicated as Don working on behalf of Franklin County animals and their new families," said Commissioner Marilyn Brown. "We appreciate the dedication Don has exhibited over the past year. In addition to his solid experience at the Columbus Zoo, we were impressed by his creative thinking and passion for creating an inclusive, state of the art Animal Care and Control facility where teamwork and concern for others well-being abound."

“Don Winstel has the leadership skills and experience to be a successful Director. He cares deeply about dogs, and he is skillful in managing people. He treats both people and animals with respect. Also, Don understands the role of a public servant and will serve Franklin County well,” said Jerry Borin, former Executive Director of the Columbus Zoo.